

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ISO-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05 TRSE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 /116 W
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R 161318Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1740
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T MOSCOW 10790

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, PARM, UR
SUBJECT: BREZHNEV'S KOMSOMOL SPEECH

REF: (A) MOSCOW 9380, (B) STATE 123857

1. FOR THE RECORD THE BOGDANOV REMARKS REPORTED REFTEL A WERE MADE TO AMBASSADOR TOON AND EMBOFF IN MOSCOW, NOT TO AMBASSADOR LEONARD AS STATED IN REF B. LEONARD-ARBATOV CONVERSATION, ALSO REPORTED IN REF A, TOOK PLACE IN HELSINKI DURING SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT.

2. ON A MORE SUBSTANTIVE NOTE WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENT ON WHETHER OR NOT BREZHNEV IS PLANNING TO GO TO NEW YORK FOR THE SSOD:

-- THE KOMSOMOL SPEECH OF BREZHNEV CONTAINED JUST THE KIND OF NEW PROPOSALS AND HORTATORY LANGUAGE WHICH ONE
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MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED HIM TO HAVE SAVED FOR HIS SSOD SPEECH, WERE HE IN FACT PLANNING TO ATTEND. OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT HE IS NOT, THEREFORE, PLANNING TO ATTEND OR HE WOULD HAVE LEFT THE "GOODIES" REVEALED IN HIS KOMSOMOL SPEECH FOR HIS SSOD SPEECH;

-- IN A DINNER CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF RECENTLY, IN A

SLIP OF THE TONGUE, ISRAELYAN REFERRED TO THE SCHEDULING OF "OUR MINISTER'S" ADDRESS TO THE SSOD. WHEN ASKED IF THIS MEANT GROMYKO, ISRAELYAN, REALIZING HIS CHOICE OF WORDS, SMILED WEAKLY AND REPLIED THAT NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE AS YET;

-- SHOULD BREZHNEV GO TO SSOD THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FOR HIM TO ARRANGE A SUMMIT ON WHAT WOULD AMOUNT TO U.S. TERMS, I.E., WITHOUT HAVING SOMETHING TO SIGN OR WITHOUT A GUARANTEE OF A POSITIVE POLITICAL OUTCOME. TO AVOID PUTTING HIMSELF IN THIS POSITION BREZHNEV WOULD FOREGO THE SSOD UNLESS SOVIET CONDITIONS WERE MET FOR A SUMMIT;

-- SOME TIME AGO A WESTERN DIPLOMAT WAS TOLD BY AN AUTHORITATIVE SOVIET SOURCE THAT THE SOVIETS BELIEVE THE SSOD TO BE A PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE WDC AND BREZHNEV DOES NOT ATTEND PREPARATORY MEETINGS.

3. IN SUM WE THINK THE KOMSOMOL SPEECH TENDS TO FORECLOSE A BREZHNEV TRIP TO SSOD RATHER THAN LEAVE OPEN THE DECISION AS SUGGESTED IN REF B, PARA 2A.
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NNN

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